Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

at the University in Chicago, and superintend the work of the Students' Observatory on the University campus. A library and a museum are being established at the Observatory, for which contributions are requested.

The Observatory is to be dedicated on the 15th of October.

R. G. AITKEN.

MERIDIAN-CIRCLE FOR SALE.

The meridian-circle of the Georgetown College Observatory has been replaced by a photographic transit instrument, and is to be disposed of for want of room.

The instrument has two large circles of forty-five inches in diameter, one for clamping, the other with a fine graduation on silver, reading to five minutes of arc; and an object-glass of four inches aperture. There are eight microscopes, four on each pier, reading directly single seconds of arc; a micrometer with four eye-pieces, one for collimating over mercury; and a striding-level. The instrument was made by TROUGHTON & SIMMS, and cost originally $2200. A few years ago it was put in good working order by FAUTH & CO. A full description of it will be found in the first publication of the observatory, 1852, p. 193 ss. The observing and reversing-chairs will be given with the instrument.

Apply to the Director of Georgetown College Observatory, Washington, D. C.

EIGHT-INCH CLARK EQUATORIAL FOR SALE.

The Napa College proposes to sell its eight-inch equatorial. The object-glass was made by ALVAN CLARK & SONS, and the mounting by FAUTH & CO., at a cost of $2300. Intending purchasers should address Hon. S. E. HOLDEN, Napa. E. S. H.

MIRA CETI.

[Extract from a private letter from W. STEADMAN ALDIS].

"I was much interested in the observations of *Mira Ceti* in the last number of the A. S. P. *Publications* [No. 48]. I had never watched it myself until last December. I could first glimpse it with the naked eye about December 15th, six days after the maximum as given in *The Observatory*. * * * Owing to moonlight, and bad weather, I could not catch it again until December 29th, when it was quite plain to the naked eye, and grew steadily brighter for some days. On January 6th and 7th I noted it as distinctly brighter than δ *Ceti.* Bad weather came on, and I did not see it again till January 20th and 21st, when it seemed to me somewhat brighter than on the 7th. On February 12th I noted it, nearly as bright as γ, distinctly inferior to α *Ceti.*

"February 16th, *Mira* still as bright as γ.

"February 21st, *Mira* less bright than γ.

"Bad weather and the low altitude of *Mira* later on prevented any more observations; but there could be no doubt that the maximum was much later than the time given in the almanacs."

VIEWS OF MOUNTAIN OBSERVATORIES.

The Smithsonian Institution is now printing in its *Miscellaneous Collections* a memoir on "Mountain Observatories in America and Europe," by Dr. EDWARD S. HOLDEN. The illustrations to this volume are printed in the present number of the *Publications.* The titles of the cuts are a sufficient explanation. A number of the cuts have previously been printed by the A. S. P.; but most of them are new to our members. It may be convenient and interesting to collect all of them in one place.

THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.

A METEOR IN MEXICO (JULY 22, 1896.)

CITY OF MEXICO, July 23.—A remarkable phenomenon occurred yesterday at the mine of Santos Reyes, in the State of Chihuahua. At 3 o'clock a tremendous explosion was heard, and an enormous mass of burning matter was seen to fall from the heavens, striking the side of a mountain and bringing with it in its course entire cliffs. It finally plunged 700 feet into the ground, making a hole from which boiling water still issues. A heavy rain occurred immediately after the descent of the meteor. The meteor destroyed the house of a miner, killing his two children.

BRIGHT METEOR, JULY 31, 1896.

At $10^h\ 33^m\ 26^s$, P. S. T., just as the Moon was rising, the sky was illumined by a flash, and upon looking up a train about five degrees long was seen to extend from the direction of *Arcturus,* the center of the train being about R. A. $13^h\ 40^m$, Decl. $+20°$.